



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office

170 South 500 East

Vernal, UT 84078

(435) 781-4400 Fax: (435) 781-4410

<http://www.blm.gov/utah/vernal/index.html>

cc: Paul  
M0470048



TAKE PRIDE  
IN AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3809

UT08300

UTU66354, 66357,  
66358, 66366, 66378

October 31, 2006

Darron Haddock  
Division of Oil Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple Suite 1210  
PO Box 14801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Dear Darron:

I wanted to forward you copies of various inspections I completed (for certain surface management notices, one active – UTU66378 and four expired). I closed two of the expired notice cases (a copy of each closure letter is atop the inspections for cases UTU66354 and 66358). Bluebell Oil Company has yet to conduct seeding of their expired notice (UTU66357) and Dale Stevens has yet to remove some wood and tires near his filled-in excavation (UTU66366). I wanted to get the enclosures to you so that the reports can be filed as necessary and any other Divisional action, as necessary, can be taken.

Please contact me at (435) 781-4501 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter K. Sokolosky  
Geologist

enclosures

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NOV 02 2006

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING



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IN REPLY REFER TO:

3809

UT08300

66358

September 1, 2006

Mr. Norman Haslem  
2041 South 2000 East  
Vernal, Utah 84078

Dear Mr. Haslem:

SUPERVISORS	INITIAL
Field Mgr.	
Bus Practice	
Fire	
Minerals	<i>AK</i>
NEPA	
Operations	
Planning	
Ranger	
Renewables	
FOIA	

You are the operator of record of expired notice UTU66354. A recent inspection of the area reveals that there is sufficient desirable vegetation emerging and the reshaped area is stable. The BLM is closing surface management case UTU66354 effective the date of this letter.

Please contact me at 781-4501 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter K. Sokolosky  
Geologist

PSokolosky:pk:08/31/2006:66354\_closure\_ltr

bcc: Reading file  
Surface Management file UTU66354

**RECEIVED**  
**NOV 02 2006**  
**DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING**



### 3809 REPORT OF INSPECTION

Date: Aug. 16, 2006 Time: about 11:30 am Location: T.5S. R.24E. Sec 6 Lots 6 and 13 and W2SENW

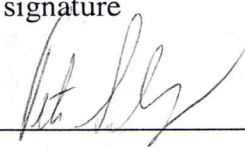
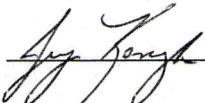
Operator present during inspection: No

Serial no. of notice: UTU 66354 (Haslem project area) Is the operation active? No (expired)

Description of operations (including access, reclamation, etc.): The subject area, which underwent reshaping and seeding in June 2001 has adequate desirable vegetative cover (denser than the surrounding undisturbed ground) and is stable (e.g., has not shown signs of erosion or mass wasting). There was only one set of ATV tracks that crossed into the reclaimed area (the off-road tracking by a truck sized vehicle observed during the last inspection was not apparent). The signage along the ripped access road from the north (image 1 attached) and a supplemental sign about the area having undergone reclamation (image 2 attached) are still in place.

Is the operation in compliance with the notice on file and/or the stipulations of the approved plan? (if No describe deficiencies): Yes. The operator of record conducted reshaping and seeding of the area in accordance with decision letters issued by this office. Drought conditions had retarded the effort to re-establish native vegetation in past years; however, the established desirable vegetation (grasses and shrubs) have grown quite well (image 6 attached is a view of the undisturbed ground to the east of the reclaimed area and which is dominated by cheat grass).

Based on the findings of this inspection, this surface management case can now be closed.

	signature	print name/title	date
Inspector		Peter Sokolosky/Geologist	<u>August 31, 2006</u>
Management		Jerry Kenczka Acting AFML&M	<u>8-31-2006</u>

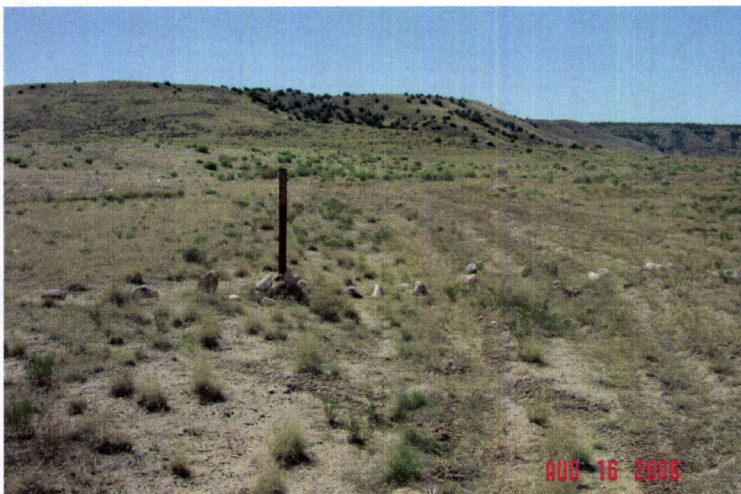
Attachment: Digital images (with descriptions)

Distribution: original to surface management case file UTU66354  
Copy - UDOGM - state file no. S/047/48

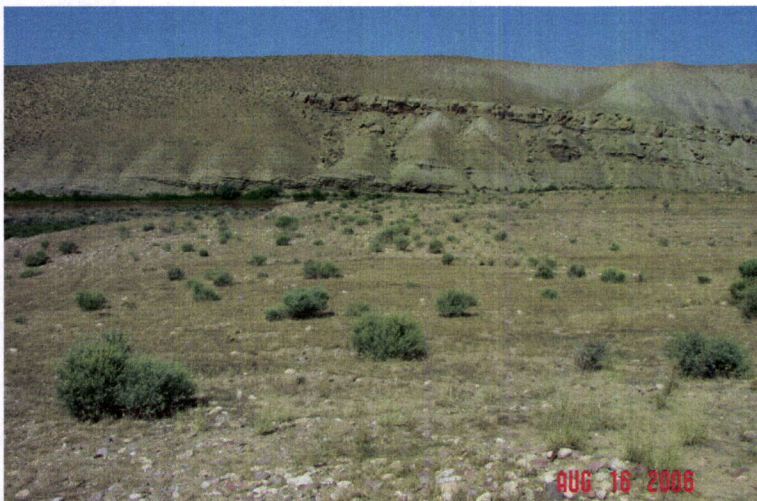




< image 1 view to south of former 6654 access that is signed as "closed" (on post in middle image). An recent track was seen in the path of this old two-track (that was ripped in August 2004). Compared with image 1 from the 2005 inspection, there is more vegetation emerging along this access and the amount of OHV travel has been less than observed during the prior inspection.

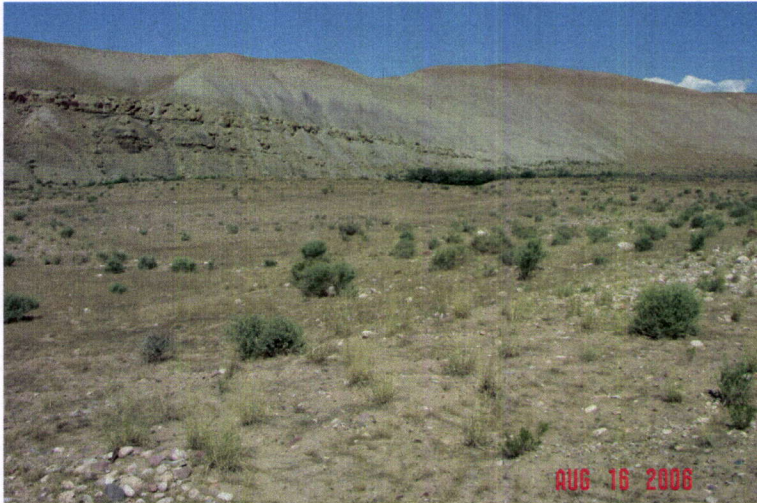


< image 2, view to southeast of the former vehicular entrance into the northwestern part of the reshaped and seeded project area where a "reclaimed area" sign has been posted (along with a rim of oversized rock placed in an attempt to preclude vehicular traffic). The southern part of the reshaped area is beyond the sign and is showing desirable vegetative cover (in a density greater than the adjacent undisturbed ground [as shown in image 6 below]. ATV had tracked into the area (see tracking from lower-right to left-center). Compare with image 7 of the prior inspection.

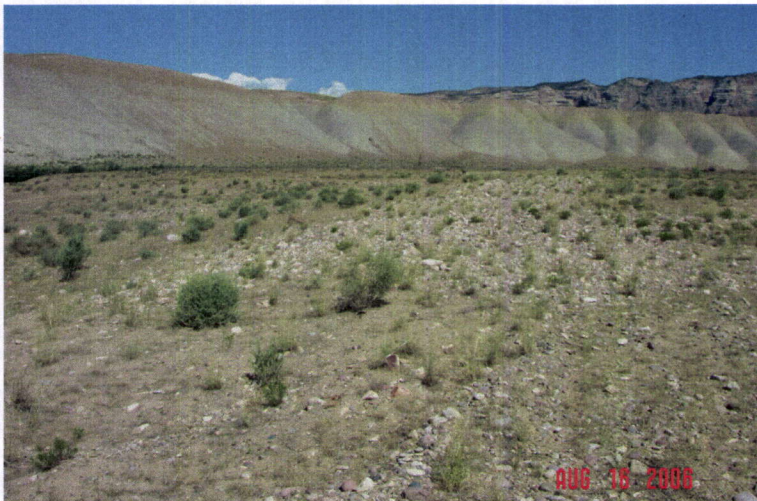


< image 3 view to west (from near SE corner of old project area). Compared with image 2 of the 2005 inspection, the desirable vegetative cover is now greater in density than the adjacent undisturbed ground, the off-road rutting by a larger vehicle is hardly noticeable, and the area is stable and I did not notice any noxious plant species.





< image 4 view to west-northwest (pan to the right of image 3). Compared with image 3 of the 2005 inspection, the desirable vegetative cover is now greater in density than the adjacent undisturbed ground and I did not notice any noxious plant species, the area is stable and the vegetation is masking the areas that have a lot of cobble material exposed (in the north side of one of those areas is in the far-right of this image).



< image 5 view to north (pan to the right of image 4). Compared with image 4 of the 2005 inspection, the desirable vegetative cover is now greater in density than the adjacent undisturbed ground and I did not notice any noxious plant species, the area is stable and the vegetation is masking the areas that have a lot of cobble material exposed (center-right of this image; the shrubs seen to be doing particularly well within this area of exposed cobble).



< image 6, view to north-northeast of undisturbed ground to the east of the reclaimed area in images 2-5. This ground is dominated by cheat grass with a scattering of shrubs. The reclaimed area has a higher density of desirable grasses (needle and thread, and rice grass) and shrubs (sage and saltbush).